

**JENNINGS COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 13, 2018 7:00**

All members present

The meeting was opened with Mike Kelley leading the pledge to the flag.

Josh Yeager made a motion to approve prior minutes; Tony Eder seconded the motion and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

President Mike Kelley told the audience that there would be a slight change in the agenda. Rick Hall with Barnes and Thornburg and the county's legal counsel for the new jail project was first to the address the board. Mr. Hall explained that he thought it was in the best interest of the county to do a jail income tax that would solely be used for the building of the jail. Mr. Hall stated that the jail tax would only be done in the amount needed to build the jail and he was asking the Council to hire him to prepare legislation and work with the legislators. In the past two sessions 5 counties have submitted requests. Mr. Hall's fee would be \$20,000 to the county.

Larry Maschino made a motion to hire Rick Hall to pursue a jail tax; Dave Woodall seconded the motion. The Vote was 5 yes and 2 No Motion passed.

Next was Kurt Schneider with Johnson – Melloh concerning the Solar Project for the County. Mr. Schneider told the Council that he had attended the last Commissioner meeting and had received approval from them to proceed with the project. Mr. Schneider stated that he was hoping to get the Council's permission to proceed with the project also.

Mr. Schneider went over the scope of work that would be involved with installing a new standing seam roof for the Government Center which included cutting down trees and grinding the stumps. The Government Center will have a complete air balance system and LED lighting will be installed at the Government Center, Probation, Courthouse, Circuit Probation, Muscatatuck Park, Recycling, Community Building, Fairgrounds (including sports lighters), old jail, EMS and Animal Control. The Highway Department has already switched out to LED lighting. Installation of the Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Power System at the Government Center, Superior Probation, buildings around the old jail, Fairgrounds and the new jail when built. Mr. Schneider had graphs showing Cumulative Cost Savings over a 25 Year Cash Flow (not including new jail) of \$1,568,409; including the new jail it showed \$3,665,674 in Utility Savings.

After much discussion, Howard Malcomb made a motion to proceed with the Solar Project using Johnson – Melloh. Tony Eder seconded the motion and the vote was 6 Yes 1 Abstained

Next was David Owsley, Geneva Twp. Fire Chief, on behalf of the Jennings County Fire Chiefs with a distribution proposal for the 6 County Volunteer Fire Departments and Dupont and Westport fire departments. Each Jennings County fire department would receive \$31,333 with Dupont receiving \$4,000 and Westport receiving \$8,000.00. These figures were approved at the 12/13/2017 meeting of the fire chiefs.

Josh Yeager made a motion to approve and accept the Fire Chiefs proposal; Dave Woodall seconded the motion and the motion passed with a Unanimous vote.

Next Mr. Owsley spoke about the proposal he had talked with the Council at their previous meeting concerning equipment needed by the fire departments. Mr. Owsley had a quote with Donley Safety for 90 air packs which included 8 packs for Center Twp. totaling \$673,729.20. Mr. Owsley said that he had 2 other quotes but they were both higher but would forward those to the Auditor who in turn would send out to the Council.

Howard Malcomb asked about doing the purchase lease plan over a ten year period and Mr. Owsley stated that he was hoping Reuben Cummings would be able to help with that but Mr. Cummings had already left the meeting at this time. Josh Yeager said he would like to see all the quotes before making a decision but Mr. Owsley assured them that this was the lowest bid of the three.

Auditor Vance asked that if this lease is done, when the 1st payment would be due and where is that money going to come from.

Tony Eder made a motion to accept the lowest quote and moving forward with ordering the equipment and taking the payment for the 10 year lease from the LIT money allocation for the fire departments. contingent on when the 1st payment is due. Howard Malcomb seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4 Yes 3 No vote.

The Council urged Mr. Owsley to get with Mr. Cummings as soon as possible. Don Biehle asked when the monies would be released that the Council approved the distribution of; because his department was expecting to receive the funds after this Council meeting.

Josh Yeager made a motion to release \$15,000 of the approved allocation to the 6 Jennings County fire departments and \$4,000 each for Westport and Dupont fire departments. Larry Maschino seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Next was Aaron Bell with the annual report for the Southeastern Indiana Recycling District which he is Executive Director. Mr. Bell applauded Jennings County for their outstanding commitment and well run

recycle center. Overall volumes for 2017: 8,465 lbs Aluminum Cans, 918,870 lbs Mixed fiber, 340,454 lbs Plastics, 30,658 lbs Clothing, 276,755 lbs Glass, 78,160 lbs Steel Cans, 497,312 lbs Corr. Cardboard and 10,050 lbs Plastic Bags for a total of 2,160,724 lbs Recycled. Jennings County alone had 740,784 lbs of Recycle collected at the Center.

Mr. Bell went on to say that they were very proud of the 102 Youth Education Presentation opportunities that were given in 2017 with a total attendance of 1,961 students. They also had 24 Adult Education Presentations with a total of 565 adults attending. Mr. Bell did say that Difficult Disposals were down mainly due to the raise in fees for tires and electronic waste. Mr. Bell again thanked the Council and the County for their participation.

Jim Reeves, Highway Superintendent, was next to address the Council requesting \$565,000 CEDIT monies for the highway department in 2018.

Josh Yeager made a motion to approve the \$565,000 for the County Highway; Dave Woodall seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Next Mary Kilgore, County Clerk, came to the Council to request a raise of pay for her Absentee Board members. Currently the county base rate of pay is \$11.09 and she would like to request \$15.00 an hour for her boards. There are three boards with a total of 6 people working. Jeff Barger, President of the Election Board and Chuck Waggoner a member of the board appealed to the Council concerning the cuts that were made to the Election budget. The Council asked Ms. Kilgore how many hours did she think the absentee board members would work and how much of an increase was she seeking? Ms. Kilgore did not know exactly and did not have the figures from her budget in front of her.

Auditor Vance went and brought back the budget for the election office and gave it to the Council to look over.

Josh Yeager made a motion to table till the next meeting. Motion died for lack of a second.

Dave Woodall made a motion to raise the hourly pay for the Absentee Board to \$14.00 an hour; Tony Eder seconded the motion. Motion passed with a 6 Yes 1 No vote.

Next Auditor Vance submitted an additional appropriation request for the general fund in the amount of \$25,708.00; Document Storage Fee \$8,500.00 and Operation Pull Over for \$11,500.00. The \$25,708.00 additional for the general fund was for the increases to the salaries for the longevity program and a few salaries that were raised by request and approval after budget submission.

Larry Maschino made a motion to approval the additional appropriation as submitted; Howard Malcomb seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Auditor Vance then requested the approval of the Amended Salary Ordinance; with the salary increase for individuals that was granted after budget submission and the original salary ordinance.

Howard Malcomb made a motion to approve the Amended Salary Ordinance as submitted; Paul Belding seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Auditor submitted a request on behalf of Greg Martin, County Park Director, to roll over items in the non-reverting fund: \$4,600 FPBH, \$2,000 Computer for Director and \$166.61 for WGSB.

Tony Eder made a motion to allow the roll over monies for County Park; Howard Malcomb seconded the motion. Motion passed with a vote of 5 Yes and 2 No.

Mike Kelley asked the audience if anyone had anything and Melinda Gabbard asked if she could address the Council. Permission was granted and she wanted to let the Council know that she had property that she would like them to consider for the new jail. The property is located at 2970 N State Hwy 3, North Vernon, In 47265 known as S & E Electrical Supplies, Inc. Ms. Gabbard gave the members copies of assessment cards and an Ariel map showing the building placement. The Council thanked Ms. Gabbard and told her they would pass this information along to the Jail Committee.

With no further business, Josh Yeager made a motion to adjourn and Dave Woodall seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

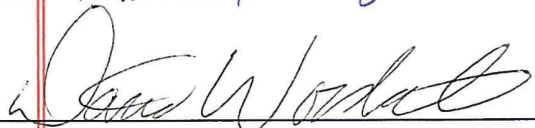
Attest:



Kay Sue Vance, Auditor



Mike Kelley, President



Dave Woodall, Vice President

Howard Malcomb

Howard Malcomb

Paul Belding

Paul Belding

Tony Eder

Tony Eder

Larry Maschino

Larry Maschino

Josh Yeager

Josh Yeager